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Russia Pushing U. S. In Production of Scientists

(Editor's note: Westbrook Pegler has returned to the United States following the death of his wife in Europe. His column will be resumed Thursday.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 29. (INS)—People... Places... Things...

Rear Adm. H. G. Rickover, USN, the man who fought the atomic submarine through the shoals of old-line Navy resistance and accumulated ignorance, produced what he called an "unpleasant fact" in a speech the other day. He said:

"In the field of scientific and engineering education our main competitor — Russia — is speedily passing us. The U. S. now has about 800,000 engineers and scientists, Russia 650,000. In 1954 she graduated more than 50,000 engineers and scientists; we graduated 23,000. Allen Dulles has stated that between 1950 and 1960 Soviet Russia will have grad-



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uated 1,200,000 scientists and engineers, compared with 900,000 in the U. S. in our present program..."

ONE OF THE reasons Lewis L. Strauss of the Atomic Energy Commission gave for brusquely rejecting Commissioner Tom Murray's proposal for an H-bomb test for all the world to see was this: The Bikini tests of 1946 (which were witnessed by two Russian scientists) "appear to have spurred them in their nuclear weapons program."

The Russians had been working on the bomb since 1943 with the help of their own physicists, captured German scientists, and the contributions of Dr. Alan Nunn May, Klaus Fuchs, the Rosenbergs, etc. Bikini couldn't have meant much, one way or the other.

In fact, one of the Red scientists was such a boom that he walked out of a demonstration of the University of California's cyclotron because some joker around the lab had chalked "Big Bertha" one one of the machine's pipes. The Red said, "ah, I KNEW it was a war-making device!"

HOLLYWOOD recently made what it considers a very interesting discovery: That Texans are quite human. It all came about when Henry Ginsberg, the producer, George Stevens, the director, and Edna Ferber, girl author, decided they'd shoot the works and film Miss Ferber's "Giant" right smack-dab in the land where folks were said to be fightin' mad about it.

The company didn't know whether it was going to shoot or get shot when it arrived in Marfa, Tex. But there were no ambushes the first day or so. Emboldened, Ginsberg wired Hollywood to build the picture a "Texas-type" house out there and ship it to Marfa, where there weren't any Texas-type houses. A tense time passed after they imported the Texas-type house into Texas. But still the natives remained quiet.

Pretty soon they came out of hiding. Long lines of air-conditioned Cadillacs appeared on the horizon, and air-conditioned twin-engined private planes and helicopters poked inquisitive noses over hills.

The Hollywood group then

learned that the natives weren't interested in beads, in fact, the women seemed to have found a trading post named Neiman-Marcus where such baubles are sold. Anyway, the natives made the intrepid pioneers feel right at home, and though the book was a scalping job here and there they adopted the film "Big," one said, a Hollywood operative later quoted.

IF YOU'RE IN the neighborhood of New York's Carnegie Hall this Sunday night around 8 o'clock, look in on "Lights On," the seventh annual all star show for the benefit of the National Council to Combat Blindness. This is one of the few organizations in the world which tries to do something about blindness before it strikes. It is primarily the creation of a fine girl named Mildred Weisenfeld, who went blind as a child from some simple malady such as measles, and roamed the world's eye-doctors in search of a cure. She didn't find it, but her work with the council is helping others to escape the fate she courageously bears.